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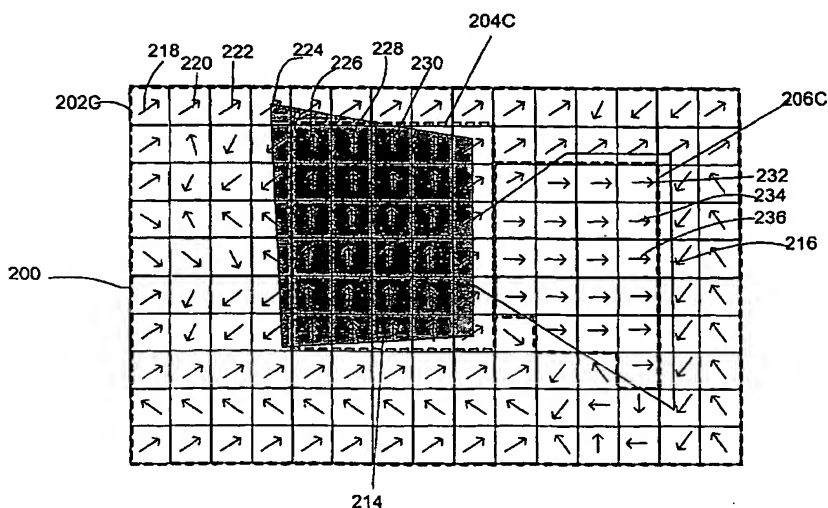
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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SEGMENTING



(57) Abstract: A segmentation system (100) for segmenting a first image feature (214) in a first video image from an adjacent second image feature (216) in the first video image on basis of motion and on an image property like color or luminance. The segmentation system (100) comprises; a block-based motion estimator (102) for estimating motion vectors (218-230) for blocks of pixels; a motion segmentation unit (104) for segmenting the first video image into a first group of connected blocks of pixels (204) and a second group of connected blocks of pixels (206) on basis of the motion vectors (218-230) of the respective blocks of pixels; and a pixel-based segmentation unit (106) for segmenting the first image feature (214) from the second image feature (216) by means of a pixel-based segmentation of a portion of the blocks of pixels of the first and second group of connected blocks of pixels (214 and 216), on basis of the respective values of the image property.

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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB 03/03185

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06T5/00 G06T7/00 H04N7/26

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06T H04N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED RELEVANT

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A	US 6 337 917 B1 (ONURAL LEVENT ET AL) 8 January 2002 (2002-01-08) abstract; figure 2 -----	1-17

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